

Bush Sworn In, Vows Nonpolitical CIA

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WASHINGTON—George Bush was sworn in as chief of the Central Intelligence Agency Friday and immediately vowed that he would not allow either politics or national policy to color the agency's professional intelligence judgment.

The former Republican congressman, diplomat and GOP national chairman took over the much-criticized agency in an unusual ceremony attended by President Ford and William E. Colby, who had continued to run the CIA for nearly three months after Ford fired him.

Immediately after taking his oath from Associate Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, Bush promised to work to stop the leaks of undercover CIA agents' names and to determine whether agency practices "are indeed compatible with moral judgment of our countrymen."

In an unprecedented step, Ford, followed by reporters and an entourage of White House officials, drove to the once hush-hush CIA headquarters at nearby Langley, Va., to participate in a public ceremony attended by more than 500 persons.

The audience included key members of the congressional establishment, members of the President's Cabinet, CIA employees and a variety of others ranging from former CIA Director William F. Raborn to David Eisenhower.

Ford's appearance obviously was designed to reemphasize his support of Bush, whose appointment was criticized by some Democrats, and to point toward a brighter day for the beleaguered intelligence establishment.

But both the President and the new boss of the CIA appeared to be overshadowed in the eyes of the gathered CIA employees by Colby, who was ousted last November at the same time Ford fired Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger.

Colby was given a standing ovation when he entered the crowded auditorium five minutes before the President and Bush arrived. The audience rose to its feet again when Ford thanked Colby for his 25 years' government service.

After the swearing in, Colby accompanied Bush and the President to the main headquarters building adjacent to the auditorium to greet senior CIA officials, who did not attend the swearing-in ceremony because they could not be photographed.

Once they reached the lobby to shake hands with the officials, Colby left them and walked back outside. Two hundred or more employees cheered as he and his wife walked to their seven-year-old Buick Skylark.

The crowd stood cheering and waving as they drove away from the complex for the last time.

In his last weeks at CIA, Colby worked with presidential aides on recommendations for reform of the intelligence agency, under fire for months for engaging in domestic spying and political assassination plots.

The President told the audience at CIA headquarters that his recommendations would be completed in the next few weeks. Both he and Bush promised to see that the intelligence system remains strong.

Referring to the recent murder of CIA station chief Richard Welch in Greece, Ford said: "The Administration fully intends to safeguard the ef-

fectiveness of this agency, the confidentiality of its information and the lives and honor of its employees.

"The irresponsible release of classified information by people who should know better must cease. A better balance must be struck between the right of the people to know and this country's commitment to survive and live in peace."

Bush echoed the President's words, obviously directing his comments to the CIA employees.

"I am determined to protect those things that must be kept secret," he said, "and I am more determined to protect those unselfish and patriotic people who, with total dedication, serve their country, often putting their lives on the line, only to have some people bent on destroying this agency expose their names."

Bush took over control of the CIA, and overall leadership of U.S. intelligence activities, just 24 hours after the House blocked release of a House Intelligence Committee report on CIA activities on grounds it included secret material.

Much of the report from an investigation led by Rep. Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.) already had been leaked to the press.

Pike was on the list of those invited to Bush's swearing in Friday, but did not attend. Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.), who has led a Senate investigation of CIA activities, was not invited.

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